

tions from his letters on the ground that the letters were private ones. He said that his reasons for not using the new name *Blatella* instead of the preoccupied one *Phyllodromia* (for which he has been criticized) were that the genus contained a large number of heterogeneous species and needed revision, when the names would have to be greatly changed, while to change the generic name in the mean time would, he thought, only tend to increase the confusion. Mr. Shelford pointed out that his preoccupied name *Ceratinoptera castanea*, for which Mr. Caudell had proposed the new name *shelfordi*, had been already renamed by himself *Ceratinoptera usambarensis* (Genera Insectorum, fasc. 73, Blattidæ, Phyllodromiinae, p. 19.)

Mr. Caudell said that he had not regarded Mr. Shelford's letter as private but as a scientific communication from a recognized authority, whose opinion would be a matter of general interest.

The following papers were accepted for publication :

A NEW DIANTHIDIUM FROM PARAGUAY.

[Hymenoptera; Apoidea.]

BY CURT SCHROTTKY.

Dianthidium vernoniæ, new species.

Female. Black with a few yellow marks on the head and the three terminal segments of abdomen with broad yellow bands.

Head a trifle broader than thorax, almost nude, only with a few very short yellowish bristles, all over coarsely and deeply punctured. Eyes a little convergent at base, their inner orbits with a narrow yellow line. Mandibles longitudinally striate, clypeus broader than long, with a shallow transverse depression before its apical margin. Scutum nasale trapesiform; malar space practically none. Two small yellow spots between the insertion of antennæ. Distance of hinder ocelli about one and a half diameters, distance from the eyes more than two diameters. A yellow line along the hinder margin of the head, this sharply truncate and deeply emarginate. Antennæ fuscous, scape black, stained apically with a little ferruginous.

Thorax robust, throughout covered with deep coarse punctures, except the vertical part of the median segment, which is minutely punctured above and smooth below. Pronotum very short, only its blunt lateral angles being visible. Mesonotum a little broader than long, with its lateral margin deeply depressed, the depression forming

a narrow line, minutely punctured. Scutellum about four times broader than long, separated from the mesonotum by a very deep suture, its hinder margin sharp, overlapping considerably the median segment. Metanotum scarcely visible at the sides under the scutellum. Median segment coarsely punctured only at its base. Mesopleura anteriorly truncate, punctured like the rest.

Abdomen short, not longer than head + thorax, with large punctures on the sides of the first two body segments, decreasing in size rapidly towards the middle and the apex. An indistinct ferruginous stain at the sides of first and second segments. A small linear yellow spot at each side of the third; the basal half of the fourth yellow and its apical half fuscous; the fifth with basal two-thirds yellow and the apical third ferruginous; the sixth segment yellow, with a very small fuscous apical spot. The pollen brush is yellowish white.

Wings dark, especially at the apex of the median cell and in the cubital cells, the radial cell almost black; the nervures and stigma deep fuscous; the transverse discoidal veins terminating *behind* the angles of the second cubital cell at equal distance.

Legs entirely dark, clothed with a thin griseous pubescence; that on the metatarsi dense, stouter, and reddish brown. Pulvilli short but distinct.

Length a little over 7 mm.; width of abdomen 2.5 mm.

A second specimen has no yellow line along the hinder margin of the head and the yellow spots between the insertion of the antennæ are scarcely distinguishable; it has, however, an additional small yellow spot at each side of the clypeus; its length is 7.5 mm.

Paraguay, Tacurú-pucu, April 29, 1909 (type), and Puerto Bertoni, Alto Paraná. Taken in flowers of *Vernonia* sp. (Compositæ).

I considered this as *Dianthidium megachiloides* (Holmbg) (= *Anthodioctes megachiloides*) but the description, imperfect as it is, does not agree with my specimens in some important points. It is also near *D. indscriptum* (D. T.) (= *Anthidium cognatum* F. Smith nec Cresson), but the abdomen of the latter is "pubescent, giving it a velvety blackness" and "the scutellum is orange-yellow," while *D. vernoniæ* has the abdomen nude and the scutellum black.

AN ARCTIAN NEW TO OUR FAUNA.

Mr. R. A. Vickery has collected *Halisidota annulosa* Walker at Brownville, Texas. The moth is common in Mexico and it is not surprising that it should appear at Brownville, where so many southern forms occur.

HARRISON G. DYAR.